

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 AGRE-00 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /071 W
-----063942 110146Z /72

P 110127Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8888
INFO ALL USCONS IN MEXICO POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 04168

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, MX
SUBJECT: BOYCOTT/BLOCKADE OF MEXICAN AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS AT US BORDER

1. I RAISED MATTER OF BORDER BOYCOTT AND BLOCKADE OF
MEXICAN PRODUCTS BY US FARMERS WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ
PORTILLO MARCH 9, JUST AS I HAD PREVIOUSLY IN DAY WITH
FOREIGN SECRETARY ROEL. PRESIDENT SAID HE HAD GIVEN
MATTER SOME THOUGHT, THAT IT WAS OF NATURAL CONCERN TO HIS
GOVERNMENT, BUT THAT HE HAD DECIDED BEST POSTURE FOR HIM
TO ADOPT WAS ONE OF SERENITY. I EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT
WHAT WAS HAPPENING ALONG THE BORDER WAS A SPILLOVER FROM
A DOMESTIC PROBLEM OF SOME SEVERITY INVOLVING US FARMERS,
AND THAT IT WAS NOT AN ANTI-MEXICAN MANIFESTATION.

2. ROEL HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLY LESS SERENE ABOUT THE PROB-
LEM, UNDOUBTEDLY BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN TAKING THE DIRECT
HEAT FROM AFFECTED MEXICAN INTERESTS, INCLUDING SENATORS
AND DEPUTIES, PRESS, AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS. HE
CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD SPOKEN NOT ONLY WITH SECRETARY VANCE
BUT WITH NEWLY INSTALLED GOVERNOR OF ARIZONA. I TOLD
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ROEL THAT I PLANNED TO BE IN TOUCH BY TELEPHONE WITH FOUR
BORDER STATE GOVERNORS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO EXPLAIN HOW
THE BOYCOTT IMPINGED ON MEXICAN-US RELATIONS. LUCEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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